

# PANAMA

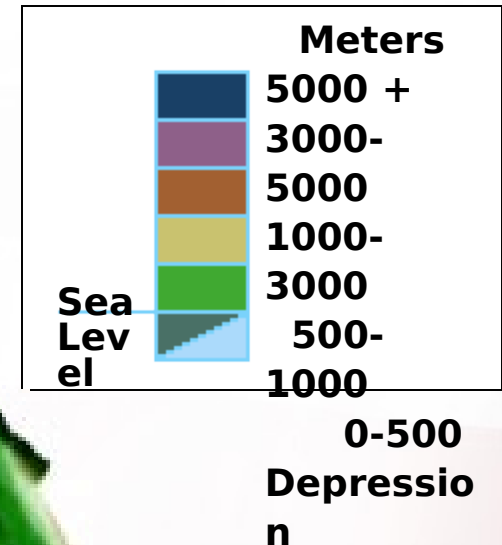


- Developing economy
- Strategic location



# Panama: Environmental Issues

- Topography
- Climate



**Tropical maritime;  
hot, humid, cloudy;  
prolonged rainy  
season (May to  
January), short dry  
season (January to  
May)**

**Interior mostly steep,  
rugged mountains and  
dissected, upland plains;  
coastal areas largely plains  
and rolling hills  
*lowest point:* Pacific Ocean  
0 m**

# Panama: Environmental Issues

- Industries
  - Agriculture and mining – gold, silver, and copper
- Water
  - Surface water contaminated with raw sewage, industrial wastes, and runoff
  - Cyanide and mercury contamination due to gold mining
- Air
  - Localized pollution near urban and industrial centers
- Soil
  - Localized near industry and waste disposal sites

# Panama: Environmental Issues

- Greatest short-term environmental health risks
  - Water contaminated with raw sewage or runoff

# **Panama: Diseases of Operational Importance**

- Intermediate risk country
- Diseases of greatest risk
  - Food and water-borne: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A
  - Vector-borne: dengue fever, malaria
  - Water contact: leptospirosis



# Panama: Diseases of Operational Importance

- Diseases of potential risk
  - Food and water-borne: protozoal diarrhea, typhoid/paratyphoid fever
  - Vector-borne: Chagas disease, leishmaniasis
  - Sexually transmitted: gonorrhea/chlamydia, hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS
  - Soil contact: hantavirus pulmonary syndrome
  - Respiratory: tuberculosis
  - Animal contact: rabies